

## **Darien Beautification Commission Minutes: Monday January 11, 2010**

**Present:** Suzanne Schutte, Bob Baker, Pam Elliott, Sandy Filmer, Jon Olmsted, Susan Bihrud, Marcia Meinerth, Sandy Drimal, Lesley Kroll, Sabina Harris,

### **Introduction of New Commission Members:**

Suzanne introduced Sabina Harris as a new member of the commission. Sabrina is presently the parent chair for beautification at Hindley School and coordinated the overgrowth clean-up and bulb planting along the Post Road boundary of the school.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The report was given by Marcia Meinerth, with discussion about future expenses for the train station berm clean-up and Norton Heights gardens. All anticipated expenses can be covered within the existing budget of available funds.

### **Hanging Baskets:**

In 2010, 124 baskets will be hung- a 10% increase over 2009

### **Projects for 2010:**

Suzanne asked members to bring to the next meeting their suggested project list for 2010.

### **Whole Foods:**

Suzanne, John S and Lesley will be meeting with Whole Foods to get an assessment of their plans for landscaping the surrounding area.

### **Signage:**

Bob Baker distributed a handout outlining his meeting and progress made to date concerning signs being illegally placed on town property. (A copy of this has been included with the minutes filed at Town hall.)

### **Spring Grove Cemetery:**

Mr. Rivello representing Spring Grove Cemetery has enlisted the advice of the Beautification Commission. Lesley Kroll has agreed to take on this project. There is no cost to the Beautification Commission.

### **Spring Clean-Up:**

Earth Day is April 22<sup>nd</sup>. April 24<sup>th</sup> is being proposed as the date for the Beautification Commission's town-wide clean-up project. Sabrina Harris will be the contact person for the 8<sup>th</sup>-grade Green Team.

### **Urns:**

To be standardized- Yes, No? This is an ongoing discussion.

### **Town-Wide Clean-Up:**

This was a topic that everyone was interested in. Commission members believed funds could be put to better use- as an example, more staffing for the town-wide clean-up days. This matter will be discussed in depth at the February meeting.,

### **Green Team Meeting:**

Suzanne suggested the Beautification Commission have representation at these meetings, chaired by Linda Goodyear. Dave Campbell, town selectman is scheduled to be in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40am. The next Beautification Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 8, at 9:00am.

Respectfully submitted, Marcia Meinerth, Interim Secretary